



"Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man."

REMEDY FOR THE CURCULIO.

We see by a communication from A. Fahnstock, of Syracuse, in the last number of the "Country Gentleman," that Hon. J. Matthews of Coshocton, Ohio, has discovered what he considers an infallible method of protecting the plum, and other trees from the ravages of the Curculio. This remedy is not yet made public. Mr. M. proposes to make it refund him the money, and expense of labor and time which he has incurred during his investigation, and therefore prefers to keep it to himself, until some society feel willing to offer a suitable and satisfactory premium, for an effectual remedy for the Curculio. This is right. We have long urged the propriety of some or all of our Agricultural Societies doing this. If Mr. M., after long labor and research, has hit upon an effectual remedy, let him be paid liberally and freely for it, and then let it be made public.

His mode of operations should of course undergo a close, rigid, and thorough investigation and application. This he says he is willing to do. He states that he will be ready at the proper season in the spring, to go to any part of the country, to experiment for any Agricultural or Horticultural Society, who will offer the above named premium. The experiment to be made under the supervision of a competent committee, on whose report, after thorough trial, the question shall be decided for or against him, and if he is not entirely successful, he will give in his time and expenses. This is a fair offer surely.

Now we propose, inasmuch as the Curculio is a common enemy, extending his ravages from Madawaska to Mississippi, that the several Agricultural and Horticultural Societies make common cause of the war against him, each putting in such amount as it conveniently can, to be given in charge of some Central Society, and thus make up a handsome premium, to be paid to Mr. Matthews, or who ever else shall discover, and communicate to the public, a simple, easy, and comparatively inexpensive, but thoroughly effectual preventive and remedy, for the damages done by the Curculio. What say you good people to this proposition?

Mr. M. avers that his application has to be made but once, is easily applied, cheap, and a benefit to the tree.

## LIQUID MANURES.

We have all heard much of liquid manure, and some of us have occasionally used it on a small scale. We all know that solid manure, or the most of the ingredients of it, must be dissolved and become liquid before it can be taken up by the rootlets of the vegetable and circulated around and about the system of the plant.

Experiments are now going on in England, and in some parts of this country, the object of which is to ascertain the comparative benefit and profit of liquifying—that is, of leaching our common barn yard and other manures, and using the liquid on the land, instead of spreading and ploughing it under in a solid state.

Where labor is cheap, and the quick return of the manure in the form of the crop is desired, we have no doubt that this would be the best mode of applying manures. It is, no doubt, always desirable for the farmer to realize a return for the manure applied as soon as possible, but if the hastening of this is the consequence of increased expense, over and above a fair profit, he had better follow the old course, and thereby gain in profit what he loses in time.

There is one species of crop, however, and a very important one, too, to which liquid manures would seem peculiarly adapted. This is our hay crop. The application of top dressings to our mowing lands, while they increase the burden of grass, oftentimes leave too much dirt on the surface, which is apt to be gathered up with the hay by the rake. If, instead of this, the same amount of fertilizing material be applied in liquid form, a more prompt action would take place, and the above trouble be obviated.

## HARVESTING CABBAGES IN THE WINTER.

A friend and correspondent complains to us, that his cabbages do not manifest any disposition to form close and compact heads, and enquires what he shall do with them.

We would advise him to let them stand the usual time, and if they are not sufficiently formed then, to give them a chance to head during the winter, by adopting the following plan:—Dig a trench on the side of a hill say a foot wide, and two deep. Let it slope down hill sufficiently to drain off any water that may chance to find its way in.

Put a layer of straw on the bottom. Pull the cabbages up by the roots, close the leaves together, and place them in the trench, head down, and roots up. Place some straw between them and the sides of the trench. Then take a couple of boards and set them over the trench so as to form a roof, and cover the whole over with earth. In this way we have caused cabbages to form good heads during the winter, and take them out for use in the spring. By putting them down roots up, you prevent any dirt from getting in among the leaves. If the water gets in and stands among them, they will be in danger of rotting.

The corn and rye crop of the Connecticut river valley is universally superior to last year's yield. The potato crop is a great failure, in consequence of the rot. The apple crop will be very small.

## HOW SOON WILL THEY BEAR?

FRIEND HOLMES:—This is a question often asked nurserymen by the purchaser of fruit trees, as it is the criterion for estimating their value. It is quite natural for us impatient Yankees to inquire at the outset of an operation, how soon will it pay?

Trees may in many cases be so managed as to pay the investment in a very few years; but it should be the aim of the fruit-grower to have them continue to pay.

Like precocious persons, whose character and mental powers are early developed, and their brilliant career soon ended, so are trees which are forced to produce large crops of fruit while young; exhausting instead of adding in youth of wood and such organic matter as is necessary for fruitfulness in coming time. Although impossible for the nurseryman to know how soon trees will bear after leaving his fostering care, yet he can often tell how soon they ought to bear under proper treatment and with favorable seasons. Trees of short duration, like the plum and cherry, may commence bearing in five or six years from the seed, if grafted as soon as size will admit, while pears on their own roots seldom bear too soon. In fact, with all the driving and training, it requires some patience for one to wait for the fruit of his labor, even if he has the good fortune to keep his pear trees in a healthy condition until they pass the "tender age." They may bear in ten or fifteen years.

A few years ago, dwarf pear trees were discarded by many as too tender for this rigorous climate, but trials have now been made to prove that, worked on quince stocks, they have many redeeming qualities to commend them. They will withstand the changes of our climate better, are adapted to a greater variety of soils, and will often produce fruit enough to pay expenses before other trees come into bearing.

Some years ago we purchased and set a number of dwarf pear trees from a Western nursery, but were unacquainted with the proper treatment, and suffered them to bear the same season. This was their final effort—their season died. The ill luck attending this trial caused us to denounce the system, but after repeated attempts to raise the Bartlett, both on young trees of our own growth, and from distant nurseries, in all of which we failed—or rather the trees failed—we again tried a few Bartlett with other varieties, (all dwarfs,) to test them fairly, and have not since lost a tree, while the past severe seasons have ruined many which were worked on their own roots.

We can now show specimens of the Bartlett on a small tree set in '50, (and bore last year,) which are superior to any we have ever raised by grafting into the tops of large trees—the only way that we could raise them on the pear.

Other varieties, as Bourne d'Amal and Doyenne d'Etienne, are doing well, and have given a few excellent specimens this season. We are now convinced that dwarf pear trees properly managed and not suffered to bear too much until well established, will pay.

As we so easily raised that there is less inducement to dwarf them. In '46, we set a Gravenstein dwarfed on the Paradise stock, which has not yet borne, but is quite dwarfish enough in growth, while another of this variety, a standard, set at the same time, has made good growth and bore this season. A Porter, set in '46—then about 5 feet high and 1 inch in diameter—bore one peck last season and two and a quarter bushels this, specimens of which I leave at the office.

As we look upon this as a model tree, I will give its dimensions. It is now 15 feet high, breadth of top, 14 feet; trunk 5 inches in diameter; branches out 3 feet 10 inches from the ground. It has been pruned annually until the two past seasons. This is by no means a remarkable tree for growth or productiveness, but advances just fast enough to make a vigorous and profitable tree. It proves, by comparing with others near, that low branching trees will make more growth, and bear large crops earlier than tall ones. One and a quarter bushels were picked from it while standing on the ground. This is an odd year, and if Cole's theory, that the Porter is generally about twice as much in even as in odd years, be true, a full crop may be expected next season. A Blue Pearmain set at the same time and received the same treatment, has made about one half the growth of the above, and will probably be several years longer in producing as much fruit. Such trees or such fruit should have some excellent qualities to commend it, or it will not pay. Early apples will usually produce fruit sooner than late ones.

While penning these rambling observations, allow me to refer to a memorandum taken while calling upon the subscribers to the "Farmer" in Somerset County. Leaving Lexington for the Dead River region, I left the farms and orchards behind me, and entered the forest unbroken save by an occasional "clearing" for the lumberman's camp, or by some new settler. After traveling some thirty miles along the valley of the river through No. 2, Jerusalem, Dead River and Flag Staff, passing around the north side of Mt. Bigelow, I was at length cheered by the sight of orchards which told of the "farmer's home." This seemed like leaving the wilderness for a fruitful region.

I was soon partaking of the hospitalities of a venerable farmer, on Jackson Plantation, who informed me that he came here twenty-seven years ago, "cleared land in June, and in eight years from the following autumn, gathered apples from seeds planted after a burn. In three years after this or eleven years from planting he harvested ten bushels from one tree. Not many years after he raised one hundred and fifty bushels. Let others follow his example and "never despair." I think his name—Abram Butterfield, worthy to be enrolled among the enterprising pioneers of a new settlement. Vassalboro', 9th mo., 1853. S. N. T.

IMPORTANCE OF SHORING HORSES PROPERLY. There are more horses led into shambles galls, and awkward overreaching and stumbling habits, by bad shoring than by all other causes combined.

## CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR.

OF THE NORTH FRANKLIN AG. SOCIETY.

The Show and Fair of the North Franklin County Agricultural Society will be held at Strong Village, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 5th and 6th of October, 1853.

Officers of the Society.

B. F. Eastman, President; Joshua Soule, Vice President; W. B. Bennett, Cor. Secretary; W. Norton, Rec. Sec'y; J. W. Porter, Treasurer and Collector.

Trustees—E. Craig, A. Willard, C. Mitchell, J. Toothaker, D. Tarbox, Jr. Standing Com. on Stock—E. K. Hiscok, S. H. Beale, J. Sherburne. On Crops—A. H. Bonney, J. Sprague, S. Whitney.

On Manufactures—C. B. Pullen, S. Dunham, Ed. N. E. Wright.

Incidental Com. on Ladies' Manufactures—W. H. Josselyn, E. K. Hiscok, S. Dill. Standing Com. on Stock and Crops—Elnathan Pope, C. B. Pullen, Moses Patterson.

Marshals—Wm. True, John Dyer.

Adjudging Com. on Ladies' Manufactures—W. H. Josselyn, E. K. Hiscok, S. Dill, and their ladies, on butter, cheese and flour. A. C. True, N. Gammon, on leather, harnesses, boots and shoes. B. Brett, C. B. Sylvester, W. D. Tarr, on smith-work, farming utensils, &c.

On Working Oxen and Town Teams—A. H. Bonney, E. H. Porter, Abner Tothaker. On Steers—John Gilkey, S. W. Foster, Thos. Vining.

On Bulls, Cows and Heifers—N. K. Whittemore, Marshall Niles, Samuel Whitney. On Sheep and Swine—Edmund Russell, Nathan Beede, Samuel Wheeler.

On Horses—D. Howard, J. M. Hartwell, A. J. Talbot.

On wheat, rye, corn, oats, barley, peas and clover, buckwheat, beans, potatoes and seed corn.—Orin Robbins, Josiah Mayo, H. Beale. On clover and herds grass seed, ruta bagas, carrots, beets, onions, winter squashes, pumpkins, winter apples, pears and honey.—John Smith, Benj. Allen, Elias Sweet.

General Regulations.

All entries for premiums should be made before 10 o'clock on Wednesday, the first day of Show.

Competitors for premiums on crops, stock, butter and cheese, must furnish written statements showing the soil on which crops were raised, the quantity of manure, seed, &c., the age and breed of animals, food, manner of keeping, &c., and the process of butter-making.

The committee, when they think proper, will require satisfactory evidence of the correctness of statements.

Statements and documents which committees may receive, must be returned to the Secretary. Animals and manufactured articles must be in the places assigned them, by 10 o'clock on the morning of the 5th.

Gentlemen appointed adjudging committees are requested to report themselves to their several standing committees at the store of Messrs. Potter & Hunter, on the morning of the 5th. The standing com's are requested to meet the trustees, at Potter & Hunter's store at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 5th, to assist in filling vacancies.

The incidental com's will examine all articles, crops and animals not embraced in lists on which premiums are offered, and award gratuities.

No person will receive a premium in the town teams unless the owner's name be written on the yoke. No premium will be awarded to unworthy animals.

The committee on town teams will report the names of the owners of cattle that receive premiums, and the number owned by each.

The adjudging and incidental committees will not award premiums nor gratuities to unworthy articles. Ample and secure accommodations will be provided for all kinds of stock. All persons, whether members of the society or not, are friendly to the society, and willing to lend a helping hand in furtherance of its interests and objects, are respectfully requested to contribute what lies in their power to increase the show and add to the interest and variety, by bringing in stock, manufactured articles, extraordinary vegetable productions, and anything useful, beautiful, or in any way interesting. It is hoped the ladies, particularly, will favor us with specimens of their skill and industry.

A suitable place will be prepared for their reception and exhibition, and particular care will be taken by those who have charge of the articles exhibited, to prevent them from being soiled, or otherwise injured.

Rules and Regulations. All articles of manufacture must be exhibited without the name of the owner, except machines, when it may be deemed necessary for the owners to be present.

The secretary will furnish each competitor with the number of his article, at the time of entry, which must be permanently attached to it for exhibition; the committee will then decide for what numbers the premiums shall be given.

Competitors for premiums on stock, must be with their stock, on the ground at 10 o'clock on the day of the show, and remain till it is examined. Owners of stock must furnish bows for their stock, so that all may be tied securely to stanchions prepared for that purpose. No animal must be taken from the place assigned it until the committee have closed their examinations.

All manufactured articles and implements must remain in the place of exhibition until 4 o'clock A. M. of the 6th.

At 10 o'clock A. M. of the 5th, the committees will commence examination.

Business will be suspended for dinner at 1 o'clock P. M. of the 6th.

The society will assemble at Potter & Hunter's Hall, and at half past 10 o'clock will move in procession to the brick meeting house, where an address will be delivered by E. F. Pillsbury, Esq., of Kingfield. A poem will be delivered by Lloyd Glover, Esq., of Boston. The committee on ladies' manufactures and the incidental committee will make their report in part.

The society will then adjourn for dinner. Immediately after dinner the society will re-assemble at Potter & Hunter's Hall, to hear the reports of the committees in full.

Persons residing at such distances as to render it inconvenient to drive their stock on the morning of the show, will be accommodated, free of expense, at either of the following places, viz: the farms of A. Willard, Adam Hunter, and Elias Porter.

List of Premiums. For best bull, 25 lbs. 50¢; 24, 1.50; 23, 1.00; 22, 75¢; 21, 50¢; 20, 25¢; 19, 1.00; 18, 75¢; 17, 50¢; 16, 25¢; 15, 1.00; 14, 75¢; 13, 50¢; 12, 25¢; 11, 1.00; 10, 75¢; 9, 50¢; 8, 25¢; 7, 1.00; 6, 75¢; 5, 50¢; 4, 25¢; 3, 1.00; 2, 75¢; 1, 50¢.

## AUTUMN.

BY BENNY W. LONGFELLOW.

Thou comest, Autumn! heralded by rain, With banners by great gales incessant fanned, Brighter than the brightest silks of Samarcand, And stately arrayed to thy wait!

Thou standest like imperial Charlemagne, Upon thy bridge of gold; thy royal hand Outstretched with benedictions o'er the land; Blessing the farms through all thy vast domain;

Thy shield is the red harvest moon suspended So long beneath the heaven's obtruding coverlet; Thy steps are by the farmer's prayer attended; Like flames upon the altar arise the sheaves; And following thee in thine exultation splendid, Thine Almoner, the wind, scatters the golden leaves.

"CAN WE TAKE MORE OF THEM?"

This was a question asked some years since by Dr. Holmes, editor of the Maine Farmer, in reference to the practicality of domesticating more of the wild species of fowls. Whether all domesticated animals, including poultry, were originally reclaimed from a wild state, is a question which we do not intend now to discuss.

We know that valuable additions have been made to our poultry yards within a comparatively recent period, and the addition of other species is certainly worthy of the attempt. The turkey, now disseminated over a large portion of the civilized world, existed only in a wild state on the continent of America, previous to the settlement by Europeans. The changes which domestication has wrought upon the bird during the period of 2000 years, under various climates, are interesting, but not remarkable, compared with other animals which have been subjected to similar circumstances for the same length of time. The most striking deviation from the normal type has been in the color, which from the uniform bronze of the wild bird, has been broken into shades almost as various as those of the dughill fowl.

The wild turkey is still numerous in the new and unsettled parts of the country, and specimens are frequently obtained by which the blood is infused into the common stock of the poultry yard, and the result is generally an advantage in reference to hardiness and quality of flesh.

Another American bird, whose domestication is nearly contemporary with that of the turkey, is the Canadian goose (*Anser canadensis*). It is not only well known in America, but is not an uncommon inhabitant of the poultry yard in various parts of Europe. When crossed with the domestic varieties, it produces a sterile hybrid which is much valued for the ease with which it is fattened, as well for the superior quality of its flesh.

The parent of the common tame goose in this country, is believed to be the grey lag (*Anser palustris*) of Europe. There is, however, a reasonable doubt whether all the domestic varieties originated from this source.

The common duck appears to have been derived from the wild mallard (*Anas boschas*). It is not an uncommon thing, although the color of the domestic duck is variable, to find specimens which can scarcely be distinguished from the wild stock; and various experiments have proved that they readily interbreed, producing a fertile offspring.

The wild black duck (*Anas boschas*) is frequently domesticated. We have often seen it in company with the common duck in this vicinity. In some neighborhoods along the sea coast, it is common for the domesticated black duck to breed with the tame varieties, and there is no longer any question that the offspring so produced are prolific. In some instances the drake of the wild species has been with the Muscovy (or musk) duck, but it being supposed that the hybrids were useless, as in the case of the offspring of the common duck and Muscovy, the young were killed for the table when a few months old.

Col. Jacques, of the Ten-Hills Farm, near this city, in the fall of 1851, procured several species of wild ducks, which, after the amputation of one wing at the outer joint, were let loose in his poultry yard. Among them were twenty to thirty of the wood or summer duck (*Anas sparsa*), and several pairs of black ducks. Finding all their wants readily supplied in their new location, they soon became contented, and would come regularly to be fed, at the sound of a whistle. During the first year, they evinced no disposition to breed, but early last spring they mated, and in May commenced laying freely. To suit the wood duck, which in its natural state makes its nest in hollow trees, Col. J. had boxes made, with a suitable opening for the passage of the birds, placed them among small evergreen trees, and covered them considerably with turf. The black ducks preferred to make their nests in situations less covered, but partially screened by shrubbery. Unfortunately while incubation was going on with several of the ducks, a second destructive incursion was made by dogs on the inmates of the poultry yard, and the nests so disturbed that only one brood, that of a wood duck, was brought out. But enough has been shown to prove that there is no objection to the breeding of these birds in a domestic state. They laid abundantly, and were in all respects as well contented as any domestic fowls.

It is proper to mention, however, that Col. J.'s yard affords sufficient space—comprising an acre or more—with both fresh and salt water in abundance at all times, the latter affording plenty of amusement to the ducks in catching minnows, and searching for other food. The pinioned birds were not only satisfied with this place of abode, but wild ducks of various species were in the habit of visiting here during the winter and spring, and many of them became so tame that they would go with the others and pick up grain thrown from the hand. Several of these wild ones which came of their own accord, lingered till late in the season, but as they would occasionally fly out, they were exposed, from the tameness they had here acquired, to be shot by sportsmen, and in this way they were gradually destroyed—except one drake of the black species, which early attached himself to a duck, that

had been pinioned, and has remained her constant and faithful companion and protector, seldom quitting the yard, however strongly tempted by congregations of his species in a state of liberty.

There are many other interesting points which may be settled by properly experimenting with these wild ducks. One is to ascertain what will be the result of crosses with the common kind, and with how many wild species the latter will breed, and what ones sterile. Another is, what species, distinct in a wild state, will breed together in a domestic state, and what will be the character of their progeny—if fertile, to note their tendencies from generation to generation. We hope those who have it in their power to pursue these interesting investigations, will give the public the benefit of such light as may be elicited. [Boston Cultivator.]

Now is the time to select ears of corn for seed. Go into the fields and pluck off the earliest ears and such as are well filled; and you will gain something by selecting from stalks that have two ears on them. It is important that you select in the field and before all the ears are hard, for thus you will gain several days in the ripening next year.

We think it probable that a majority of our farmers neglect to select their seed ears till the time of husking. But then they cannot determine certainly whether they take the earliest ears.

Corn is so important a crop, and so much of it is often lost by early frosts, that it is of much consequence to plant that which will ripen early. We cannot urge the planting of the small Canada corn in our latitude, for it is better to lose occasionally part of a large crop than to be always limited to a small one. We need not go north for seed ears if we will take a little care at the right time and select the ears which first come to maturity. Many farmers know the importance of taking for seed what ripens earliest, but they are apt to forget and neglect. [Massachusetts Ploughman.]

## CABBAGE PLANTS IN AUTUMN.

Mr. Ennos—I will thank you, or any of your subscribers, for the best mode of growing Cabbage Plants in the fall, and protecting them through the winter, so as to have them for early spring planting—and oblige.

Reply. The best mode that we know is, to box up in a warm, dry part of the garden, as much ground as you may wish—say a space four feet by six—let the boards be some eight or ten inches above the surface—the soil matted tolerably well—in which sow the seed by the middle or 20th of this month. A sash will not be necessary; but in cold weather they should be protected by some boards placed over the top at night, or snow or freezing rain allowing them during the day to have the benefit of the sun. They are a very hardy plant, require comparatively little care, and will be ready for setting out in the spring as soon as the ground will admit of it. [Germantown Telegraph.]

PLOUGHING BY STEAM. We see it stated in English papers that the Marquis of Tweedale has succeeded perfectly in working ploughs by steam power. The distinguished English agriculturist, Mr. Meche, in a late article, says, "there can be no doubt that that very shortly every agriculturist must use steam power if he is to stand his ground in the race of agricultural competition. The want of it is already felt, if not seen, by those who have not the means or the inclination to use it. The time is approaching when a steam engine on a farm will be as common as the drill or threshing-machine, although, like them, it has to pass through the ordeal of disbelief, doubt and prejudice. A committee of the Royal Agricultural Society give the most extraordinary accounts of the rapid introduction of farm locomotive engines during the past three years." Agriculturists appear to be waking up to the importance and advantages of steam as a mechanical aid in their labor. A vast field is opened to mechanical invention as soon as this fact becomes generally impressed upon those who till the soil.

DAVIS'S GREAT PEACH ORCHARD. We visited this orchard, near Milford, Ohio, the past week, just in the midst of peach harvest, and such another fine display we are sure cannot be found west of the shores of the Delaware or Chesapeake. And in matter of profits, we doubt whether any of the eastern peach growers will be able to show as large returns for the present season, as Mr. Davis. His orchard consists of 100 acres, and 10,000 trees. The trees have been planted six years, and this is their second crop. In 1850 they produced one basket (3 pecks) of peaches per tree, on an average, which sold for about \$10,000 clear of expenses of marketing. This season, Mr. D. informed us, fully paid for the cost of the land and the trees, culture, &c. His present crop are now selling readily at \$1.25 to \$1.50 per basket, at the rate of 500 to 600 baskets per acre, without any prospect of decline in price or demand; so that he is sure of realizing not less than \$30,000 for his crop, or say \$25,000 clear of expenses. We are glad of it, for Mr. D. is a worthy man, and the public in our cities are benefited by his labors. He may expect a little more competition in the business hereafter, but we presume the demand for good fruit will about keep pace with the supply—and every man who plants peach trees will not obtain good fruit. [Ohio Cultivator.]

LARGE CROPS OR LARGE FARMS. "If our farmers, instead of laboring to double their acres, would endeavor to double their crops, they would find it a vast saving of time and soil, and an increase of profits." This statement needs little argument to sustain it. If ten acres of wheat can be made to yield four hundred bushels, instead of two hundred,—the tillage, seed, rent and taxes of the additional ten acres required to produce the first named quantity, will be saved and added to the profits. The expense of tillage will of course be increased, as it is of thorough culture, manuring, drainage, that such increase of crops is secured. [Es.]

REMARKABLE VOYAGE OF A COW. A gentleman of this city purchased a cow, on Thursday, at Kittery, and drove her home, leaving her calf behind. In the afternoon she escaped from the pasture and made her way to the bridge, but not being permitted to cross without toll, it appears that some time in the evening she took to the river to swim across. Not having power to swim the rapid side of the Piscataqua, she drifted against the bridge, and got entangled in such a manner that she could not escape, and yet was preserved from drowning. Thus she remained all night, and until some humane man came to her relief in the morning, with a boat, and towed her ashore. She appeared likely to do well. Here in this bereaved and expatriated animal was maternal affection, anxiety, courage, energy—almost reason, but not quite—for that night he had forced the stuffing down the throat; and that, by means of barley paste, he had prevented the stuffing on one side, having boiled it afterwards. It is said also of these Greek cooks, that by their saltings, picklings and fryings, they could actually make a turnip pass for any kind of fish or flesh they chose.

MYSTERIES OF COOKERY. It is said that some of the great cooks of ancient Greece carried their art to such perfection that they were able to serve up a whole pig, boiled on one side and roasted on the other, and stuffed besides, though without visible mark of the knife upon it. The inventor of this feat was cruel enough to keep the process secret for a whole year. At length it was revealed that he had bled the animal to death by a very small wound under the shoulder, by which he had also extracted the entrails piecemeal; that he had forced the stuffing down the throat; and that, by means of barley paste, he had prevented the stuffing on one side, having boiled it afterwards. It is said also of these Greek cooks, that by their saltings, picklings and fryings, they could actually make a turnip pass for any kind of fish or flesh they chose.

TO CLEAN OIL PAINT. With a weak solution of spirits of ammonia, in water, and with some suitable substance, such as a linen rag or sponge, lightly go over the painting to be cleansed. By this process, oil painting may be so cleansed as to appear quite new and fresh, and usually the gloss preserved. G. F. Wintthrop, Sept. 1853.

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## AUTUMN.

BY BENNY W. LONGFELLOW.

Thou comest, Autumn! heralded by rain, With banners by great gales incessant fanned, Brighter than the brightest silks of Samarcand, And stately arrayed to thy wait!

Thou standest like imperial Charlemagne, Upon thy bridge of gold; thy royal hand Outstretched with benedictions o'er the land; Blessing the farms through all thy vast domain;

Thy shield is the red harvest moon suspended So long beneath the heaven's obtruding coverlet; Thy steps are by the farmer's prayer attended; Like flames upon the altar arise the sheaves; And following thee in thine exultation splendid, Thine Almoner, the wind, scatters the golden leaves.

"CAN WE TAKE MORE OF THEM?"

This was a question asked some years since by Dr. Holmes, editor of the Maine Farmer, in reference to the practicality of domesticating more of the wild species of fowls. Whether all domesticated animals, including poultry, were originally reclaimed from a wild state, is a question which we do not intend now to discuss.

We know that valuable additions have been made to our poultry yards within a comparatively recent period, and the addition of other species is certainly worthy of the attempt. The turkey, now disseminated over a large portion of the civilized world, existed only in a wild state on the continent of America, previous to the settlement by Europeans. The changes which domestication has wrought upon the bird during the period of 2000 years, under various climates, are interesting, but not remarkable, compared with other animals which have been subjected to similar circumstances for the same length of time. The most striking deviation from the normal type has been in the color, which from the uniform bronze of the wild bird, has been broken into shades almost as various as those of the dughill fowl.

The wild turkey is still numerous in the new and unsettled parts of the country, and specimens are frequently obtained by which the blood is infused into the common stock of the poultry yard, and the result is generally an advantage in reference to hardiness and

AUGUSTA:  
THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 29, 1853.

## PURCHASE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The Legislature, now in session, are deliberating upon the expediency of purchasing that portion of the public lands, within the borders of Maine which belongs to Massachusetts.

The subject is one of no small importance to us. If Massachusetts would cooperate cheerfully and faithfully with Maine, in making roads, and offering all the facilities to settlers on these lands that Maine does, it would be as well not to purchase them; but this will not do. Hence, there is a serious difficulty in managing and settling our own lands. As Massachusetts owns every alternate township, we cannot get good continuous roads from township to township. Maine expends money to construct good roads through her townships—Massachusetts does not, consequently you find in that region a piece of good road in a Maine township, but the moment that you come to the dividing line, you plunge into the mud and mire, through which you must founder, until you get through the Massachusetts territory, you then strike on one belonging to us again. This is the general feature of the case.

Massachusetts owns more than a million of acres, and she offers to sell the whole for \$302,500, or she will sell that portion of her lands in the first five ranges, which lie immediately west from the east line of the State, for \$105,000.

She will take such portion of the price in cash down as Maine may please, and the balance in twenty years, at five per cent annual interest.

The State now owes a debt of \$600,000, and if we take the whole of the Massachusetts lands, it will bring the debt up to nearly a million. But the Constitution forbids the State authorities, to incur a debt of more than \$300,000. If therefore the Legislature conclude to take the lands in question, it will be incumbent to pay down \$32,500 to enable them to get a credit which will be constitutional.

We think Mass offers the lands cheap enough, and if we were free from debt, there would be no hesitancy in closing the bargain.

## MODE OF COPYING COINS, MEDALS, AND IMPRESSIONS.

Our correspondent who signs his query "youngster," will permit us to say, that an Editor seldom is able to keep coin long enough to take copies of it, and as for medals, they are altogether out of his line of business.

However, our young friend of a "youngster," will find, that he can copy anything of the coin, medal, or other impressions, on metals etc., by using Isinglass.

Dissolve Isinglass such as he can obtain at the apothecary's in alcohol or brandy, and when it is dissolved, pour it on to the medal or whatever he wishes to obtain a copy of.

Let it remain there a day or two and it will dry into a hard film, when it may be taken off, and will present a very good impression.

By being dissolved as above, the Isinglass will harden quicker, and be more likely to resist dampness in the air.

By moistening the opposite side very slightly, which may be done by merely breathing upon it, gold leaf if applied will stick to it, and thus appear through the semi-transparent substance very fine.

Impressions of other kinds may be thus copied from things which cannot be easily moved, though sometimes it may be necessary to apply the Isinglass repeatedly by a soft brush.

## COUNTY AG. SOCIETY FALLS IN MAINE.

York, at Alfred, Oct. 5 and 6.  
Cumberland, at Portland, Oct. 19 and 20.  
West Lincoln, at Lewiston, Oct. 5 and 6.  
Lincoln, at Wiscasset, Oct. 5 and 6.  
Kennebec, at Readfield Corner, October 12 and 13.  
North Kennebec, at Waterville, Oct. 4 and 5.  
South Kennebec, at Gardiner, Oct. 19 and 20.  
West Somerset, at Madison Bridge, Oct. 5 and 6.  
Penobscot, at Bangor, September 28 and 29.  
North Arctostook, at —, Oct. 12 and 13.  
West Oxford, at Lovell, Oct. 19 and 20.  
Oxford at Paris, October 5 and 6.  
Piscataquis, at Dover, Oct. 5.  
Waldo, at Belfast, Oct. 12 and 13.  
Washington, at Pembroke, September 27.  
North Franklin, at Strong Village, October 5 and 6.

N. B. Will the Secretaries of the several societies furnish us with correct information of the time and place of their respective shows in order to fill up the above table?

**SHIP BUILDING IN BATH.** We are very glad to observe that the business of ship building is very good at the present time. The Bath Mirror enumerates eleven ship yards, in that city, at which, says the Mirror, "there are now on the stocks twelve first class ships, averaging 1200 tons each, which, with one exception, are to be launched during the next five or six weeks. Others are to take the places of these as soon as they are launched. It is expected that most of the yards will be occupied through the winter, and that not less than fifteen ships will be added to our merchant navy from them during the early summer months of next year."

**A CURIOSITY.** Our neighbors of the Hallowell Gazette have had quite a curiosity left at their office, in the shape of a ten-headed cabbage. The Gazette says:—

"Mr. Henry P. Haggitt, of this city, has left at our office a cabbage of extensive dimensions, having ten distinct heads—none of the size of a large water-pail—the nine about the size of a piece of chalk each. It is a curiosity in its way, and we doubt if the like can be produced to match it."

The township of Grass Valley, California is famed for its Quartz mining companies—twelve are now in operation there and doing well, but the Helvetia & LaFayette, whose advertisement appears in another column, seems to be taking the lead. Over \$200,000 in gold has been taken out of its mines since their first opening in Apr. 1852, and their yield is now greater than at any previous time. We think that an examination into the affairs of this company will repay those desirous of making a profitable investment.

**WELL DONE BRO. BURNHAM.** We see by a paragraph in the New England Cultivator, that the Editor has made a shipment of sundry pigs, and hogs, and poultry, and probably a span or two of the interior of Louisiana. The amount of value was something over two thousand dollars. Well, Bro. Burnham, you are a "lucky dog."

## POMOLOGICAL.

Although there is an uncommon dearth of good fruit in Maine, the present year, we occasionally receive fine specimens from various sources. We this week acknowledge the receipt of the following articles.

**GRAPE.** From John W. Adams, of Portland, a specimen of the Diana grape, well grown, and showing them to be earlier in ripening than the Isabella. Also a specimen of the Strawberry grape. This is a small but fine flavored grape, which ripens very early. These varieties are well calculated for this State, and we advise those who wish to cultivate a vine or two, to get these kinds.

**PEARS.** Bartlett pears from Capt. Joseph Jennings, of North Wayne. These were superior. The Captain is O. K. in these matters.

Some beautiful pears from Mr. N. T. Taylor, of Mt. Vernon. They have the characteristics of the Bartlett, and we call them Bartlett pears. Those sent to Winthrop were the same, although the bearer called them the "Seckel." They were all splendid every way.

Specimens of pears, called Robins pears, have been received from Mr. Joseph Steadman, of Sidney. This fruit is of medium size, of a roundish oblate form, sweet and melting as to flavor. We should like to know if it is considered a native. It resembles the old St. Michael very much.

**LARGE APPLE.** A Franklin Sweeting, a real "lunner," weighing a pound, and girding we don't know how much, (hadn't time to run it) has been received from George W. Jones, Esq., of this city. A couple of them would make a pumpkin pie.

## EDITOR'S TABLE.

**PARLOR MAGAZINE.** The first numbers of a new magazine, with the above title, are before us. It comes from Cincinnati, Ohio, and is published by Jethro Jackson, at \$2.00 a year. The numbers before us show great judgment in selection, and give promise of a valuable work. We shall speak more understandingly from a longer acquaintance. It purports to "combine the brightest order of literary talent, with the ornate beauty of the most popular monthly Magazines," and to "disseminate, while it blends valuable information and sound morality, with the gratification of a literary and imaginative taste." We wish it success.

**NATIONAL MAGAZINE.** The October number of this work is at hand, and opens well. The leading paper, "Institutions for Seamen," is finely illustrated, and an interesting article. Among the rest we notice an article on the free-trade quarries at Portland, Ct., which has several illustrations. There are other valuable and interesting articles which the reader will find in turning over the leaves of this number. This is really a good work, and, with a very handsomely printed, and ably edited, too. Published in New York, at \$2 00 per annum.

**THE MYSTIC PARLOR.** We find on our table a new temperance work, just published by John P. Jewett & Co., Boston, entitled "The Mystic Parlor; or, the Satanic License." By Rev. Joel Wakeman. We have not had time to peruse it, but the following notice, from the New York Tribune, will show what the work is.

"This is a powerful representation of truth, though clothed in the garb of fiction. In a series of vivid and impressive sketches, it describes the influence of rum-drinking on social life in the country. The pictures are drawn from nature, and many of them are equally graphic and pathetic. We heartily commend it to the attention of the friends of the temperance movement."

## MELANCHOLY DEATH.

A very melancholy and afflictive event took place in Winslow last Saturday, which occasioned the death of C. G. Greene, son of R. H. Greene, Esq.

It is well known that for more than twenty years past the Messrs. Greene have been in the business of raising choice Durham and other cattle, and have always had a number of breeders on hand.

As Mr. G. was leading one of the bulls to water, by some means he got free from his chain and attacked him and crushed him to death. No one was present at the time, but as he was absent a longer time than usual, his father went out to ascertain the cause, and found his mutilated remains in the yard. The bull was immediately shot.

In the death of this young man, his family have received an irreparable loss, and the community will feel that a useful and valuable member has been taken away in a melancholy manner.

**FIRE.** On Friday morning a small dwelling house on the east side of the river, owned and occupied by Mr. Eben Hussey, was entirely consumed by fire. The flames had made such progress before the discovery of the fire that nothing could be done to save the building, and Mr. H. was obliged to jump from his chamber window, without saving a thing. The loss is estimated at about \$500.

**SUICIDE.** We learn that Mr. James F. Whittey, of Readfield, committed suicide in his room, on Tuesday night of last week, by hanging himself. Mr. W. had been blind for some 15 years. No cause is known for the commission of the deed.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.** We learn that, by a premature explosion in one of the lime pits in Rockland, last week, two men were wounded, one of whom died almost instantly, and the other was so badly hurt that his recovery was considered very doubtful.

**TRANSACTIONS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.** This enterprising Society have published their transactions for 1850-51. The work makes a neat 8vo volume, and contains a fund of valuable agricultural information. Our thanks are due to F. Smyth, Esq., for a copy.

**GREAT CORN.** The best specimen of corn that we have seen for many a year, has been received from Dan Fulton, Esq. of Bowdoinham. It is a yellow, eight-rowed variety, kernel large, and ears average fourteen inches. We thank Mr. Fulton for the specimen sent us, and speak for a bushel for seed next spring.

**THE PUBLIC LANDS.** We understand that a vote in the House of Representatives, on Tuesday forenoon, was strongly in favor of the purchase of the Massachusetts lands. We go to press too early to give any particulars.

**REV. W. A. P. DILLINGHAM** will preach in the First Universalist Church, in this city, next Sabbath, October 2.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT.** We are indebted to the neighborly kindness of our friends of the Age, for the reports of the Legislative doings which we give this week.

**POST OFFICE DISCONTINUED.** The Post Office at Fort Fairfield, Arctostook County, has been discontinued. Mail matter for that place should be directed to Presque Isle, Me.

## GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &amp;c.

**A Venerable Prey.** There was recently held in Andover, according to a correspondent of the Flatbush Revue, a party at which was assembled twenty-one persons, whose united ages amounted to 1561 years, making the average 74 years. Three brothers were present with their wives, whose united ages amounted to 465 years, the average age being 77 1/2 years. A sister was absent who, had she been present, would have made the united age 554 years and the average 79 years.

**Curious Discovery.** The Corriere Mercantile of Genoa quotes a letter of the 12th, mentioning the discovery at Pompeii of three human skeletons, evidently belonging to one family, together with that of a dog. The postures in which they were found led to the presumption that they were engaged in flight at the time of the eruption, but were overtaken by the lava, the dog refusing to leave his master. They had bags of gold and silver coin with them; one of the skeletons, still displaying rings and ornaments, was that of a young girl, probably the daughter of the fugitives.

**Sudden Death at Camp Meeting.** On the last morning of camp meeting at Belfast, Me., a man named Miller, of Washington, died suddenly. He had been much excited during the meeting, and was especially anxious for the "conversion" of two daughters. His desired object was gratified. Being in excited prayer, he fell over backwards, and expired.

**Fire in Frankfort, Me.** We learn that the dwelling house and store of Mr. John Stokell, situated in Frankfort, Me., was totally destroyed by fire on the morning of the 11th inst. Cause, defect in the chimney. Loss \$2500. The house and stock of furniture in the store was insured at the Manufacturers' Insurance Company of Boston, for \$2500.

**Arctic Expedition.** A document, printed by order of the House of Commons, has recently been published in England, containing the admiralty instructions to Commander Inglefield, of the Phoenix, sailed for the Arctic regions. The orders are very strict. The commander is to communicate with Sir E. Beechey, and by ship being frozen in for the next winter, as he is positively to return to England this season.

**A long Tunnel.** The length of the Blue Ridge Tunnel in Virginia will be 4200 feet—of which 2187 feet are completed. On the western side the tunnel has penetrated the mountain 1225 feet, and on the eastern side 902 feet. During the month of August the progress of the work was 52 feet. At the same rate of progress the work will be finished in about three years.

**Figs in Maine.** A lady in Maine has a fig tree which has matured four figs this season. The tree is five or six years old, and was started in Massachusetts. The fruit starts out without any appearance of blossoms, and does not ripen until the second season. The tree now has about a hundred figs on it, which will ripen next season if nothing befalls them.

**Survey and improvement of the Illinois river.** The Illinois River is ordered to be surveyed forthwith, by Col. S. H. Long, U. S. Top. Engineer and Superintendent of Western River Improvements. This work is preliminary to that of dredging. There are two dredge boats, with masts, already constructed for the Western River Improvements, out of the proper appropriation for boats. One of these boats is now operating at Dubuque, and the other at Cumberland bar, on the Ohio River. It is intended to make the channel 200 feet wide and three feet deep at the lowest stage of water.

**Cheap Dwelling.—An Excellent Plan.** We learn from the New York Express that a number of capitalists in that city, have determined to build houses upon the plan of the dwellings in Paris, each building to be divided into suits of apartments, and then to be let to families. In this way comfortable and respectable accommodation may be afforded within the means of moderate men, which is quite out of the question at present.

**The result of Emigration.** Ninety-three emigrant ships sailed from Liverpool during the past month of August, carrying 20,250 passengers. Of these, 16,000, perhaps more, but the returns are defective, were for the United States. In the seven months, ending Aug. 1853, there is a diminution of 7,000 emigrants, as compared with the same period of last year; the falling off being entirely on the Australian route.

**Something of a family of relatives.** The York (Pa.) Free Press announces the death of Mr. John Grissinger, at Lewistown, in the 98th year of his age. He was a veteran of the Revolution, and leaves, as near as can be ascertained, 322 relatives, viz: 14 children, 123 grandchildren, 242 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

**Fatal Accident.** A correspondent of the Hartford Courant states that a melancholy accident occurred at Portland, Conn., on Tuesday, at the "Middlesex Quarry." One of the cranes standing on the edge of the "deep hole," fell into the hole, a distance of nearly one hundred feet; it struck in the midst of a gang of men, killing one instantly—crushing him literally to pieces—and mortally wounding two more. Others of the gang were badly injured.

**High Prices.** At the recent sale of the Museum forming a part of the estate of the late Dexter Marsh of Greenfield, a large slab of sandstone, with tracks upon it, was bought by Mr. Alger of Boston, for \$375. A single impression of an enormous foot, apparently of a bird five or six times the size of the ostrich was bought by the same gentleman for \$100.

**Singular Death.** A child ten months old, died in the cars recently, on the London and Western Railway. It had ridden in charge of its mother all night, in the third class cars, lying on its mother's knees the whole time. It was decided upon a post mortem examination, that it had been suffocated from the foul air of the car.

**Substitute for the Potato.** A Rillaceous plant, the fritillaria, known commonly by the name of the crown imperial, is said to contain in its bulbs at least as much nourishment as the potato. The fecula of the fritillaria is white, and serves perfectly well for nourishment, whether for man or cattle. The plant is of easy culture, and its fecula can be obtained at a less cost than that of potatoes. It has been tried in France for cakes and other purposes, and found to be excellent.

**Brutal.** A piece of outrageous cruelty was lately committed upon two noble horses in Oranmel, Allegheny county, N. Y. They were raced eighty miles for a stake of \$400, the winning horse making the distance in eight hours and eight minutes, including stoppages, and the other dying in less than an hour after the race.

**Lucky.** In Biddeford, Me., at the late election, an old man who performed the duties of sweeper at the machine shop, was brought forward as a candidate for the State Legislature—and elected by a majority of 198!

**Large Ox.** "Muscatine," an ox six years old, raised at Muscatine, Iowa, now en route for the World's Fair, is believed to be the largest ox in the United States. He is 6 feet 8 inches high, 17 feet and 4 inches long, girls 10 feet 9 inches, and, if fattened, it is believed, would weigh over 4,000 lbs.

**Handsome specimens of Coal.** Mr. Gray, of the Baltimore vein, at Wilkesbarre, Pa., has taken out a column of coal for exhibition at the New York Crystal Palace, which measures four feet square and twenty-nine feet in height. Several other mines are sending smaller specimens. The citizens of Wilkesbarre have contributed \$1000 to defray the expenses of moving and transporting these specimens of their coal.

**Mosquitoes.** A mail contractor in Texas, alleges in excuse for several recent failures on his route that the mosquitoes are so bad there as actually to endanger the life of man and beast. The Washington Star does not doubt the truth of the fact.

**Silver Coinage.** The mint at New Orleans is now turning out some \$200,000 per month in new silver coins, and there, as at Philadelphia, those engaged in making silver money are working night and day; two sets of hands being employed at Philadelphia.

**Colt's Pistol Patent.** The Commissioner of Patents has refused to grant an extension to S. Colt of his patent for improved firearms, the patents having already received nearly \$1,000,000.

## LETTER FROM ALABAMA.

**FRIEND HOLMES.**—In this correspondence I see that I could maintain an advantage, were I so disposed,—being entirely unknown to you, but personally acquainted with a very large circle of your readers—and if I am not very much mistaken you have some "readers" who are not subscribers. Why, by the way, reminds me of a darling project I have often contemplated. If I had an estate to bequeath for charitable purposes—which surely I never dream of but in the most extravagant castle-building—I would give the whole of it to establish and maintain a sort of Agricultural Printing House, for the good people of Maine, where papers, pamphlets, reports, dictionaries, and treatises of all kinds, having a direct bearing upon agriculture, and whatever of all the arts and sciences might avail anything in this all-important branch of industry, this incomparable science, should be issued in sufficient quantity to supply, gratuitously, every school district in the State. But this condition should be annexed—they should form a part of a District School Library, which might be indefinitely enlarged by yearly contributions, with well selected books of Travels, Natural History, an Encyclopedia of the useful Arts and Sciences, and a very small number of the most approved fictions. I have named but a few which I would consider indispensable; and if such a library should be thought too expensive for a district, as I think well it might be, considering their great number and the size of some of them, why let there be from one to four such libraries in a town, accessible to all, under the customary restrictions. Then I would have the inhabitants of each district organize themselves into a miniature agricultural society, hold their meetings regularly and orderly, with such constitutions and by-laws as pleased them—where the fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, should meet constantly, say once a month, for a free expression of opinion, on the different subjects of agricultural interest, both in the free and easy style of common conversation, and also in the more formal method of disputation and dissertation.

This little society would necessarily consist of two branches: the "Household department," for the males, and the "Domestic department," for the females. They could meet alternately, once a fortnight; and that the women may have their "rights," they could be admitted to both branches—but the males to their only by invitation. Now they may smile who will at this darling project, as impracticable and impossible, but having now penned it, I am ready to meet any objection made against it, and can fully demonstrate its entire practicability and incalculable utility. Now leaving the gratuitous distribution of the books out of the question, (you know one can bestow princely charities in imagination without impoverishing himself or others thereby, as I reckon many do,) still, by some means they can get possession of suitable libraries. "But," you say, "do they want them?" "Ay, they do." The first question then is, how shall they be procured? It is an active interest in no important and seemingly difficult an undertaking—more easily asked than answered, but still answerable. The industry and intelligence of New England people, of New England farmers, are sufficient known, and have been sufficiently flattered by sincere benefactors, and as aspiring demagogues, too, both which, by their climate, soil and habits, are now more highly favored than ever. Now, as being of that class, for I aspire to the dignity of a tiller of my own soil, let us say that, notwithstanding they (people of Maine) furnish their share of school teachers, editors, &c., still there is not enough of the right kind of knowledge among them, and never can be under the present incomplete system of their common schools,—which as a general thing, in my opinion, is had throughout, both in grading and in the course of studies usually pursued. I will state what seems best to me, as that, too, will show what seems to be defects in the present system. Let scholars from five to twelve years of age, learn to read, write and spell, and study no higher arithmetic than Colburn's First Lessons—and in some cases a little of the grammar. From twelve to fourteen, ciphering, parsing, and geography. From fourteen to sixteen, algebra, the elements of chemistry, mineralogy, botany and philosophy. Of course, in closing schools the age should be regarded where talent and industry make up for it. I only used the numbers to give a more definite idea of the studies to be pursued.

The elements of chemistry, mineralogy and botany I would consider indispensable to be learned in every school, and studied by every scholar, male and female, of sufficient age and ability. A work like Youman's answers the purpose as near, perhaps, as can be—giving enough of organic and inorganic chemistry, and I would have the works on mineralogy and botany, besides containing the general principles of their respective sciences, completed in the detail, with special reference to the geological and botanical surveys of the State. Some may say this is too much ground. I think not. Let them take time—let them attend school as long as possible, i. e. as long as they can afford the time, which is often longer than they imagine. But a large portion of our scholars make no great progress in reading, writing and arithmetic. Very true—but it results more from want of proper incentives to study than from inability on the scholar's part. I think, in a large majority of cases. Boys and girls naturally inclined to, or allowed to fall into habits of idleness and inattention, only require more powerful incentives, to place them then along side of the more active. Indeed, the small amount of ground to be gone over creates this carelessness and in a great measure. It is "read, 'rite and 'rithmetic," to-day, "read, 'rite and 'rithmetic," to-morrow, and "read, 'rite and 'rithmetic," next term; and soon they will have no time to learn the "three R's," and so will not trouble themselves much about these just now, but take time for a great deal of fun. Whether they actually reason so or not, I will not say, but so their actions speak.

Just let the boys and girls know that, when they become young men and women, they will be expected to know something of the airy notions, the constituent elements that make up the solid materials around them, some of their less complicated, but not less curious and wonderful affinities in forming the substances of which they are in most constant and daily use. Something of the regularity and power of that mysterious agency which unites the minute particles of dust into mineral masses of the most perfect symmetry and form—the little pebbles as well as the granite boulders—something of the nature of the different soils and their improvement—whether a coating of sand or much be most needed. Something, too, of the nutritive elements in different vegetables and plants—their habits of growth, decay and reproduction; something of the weeds, flowers, grasses, grains and trees, in their own fields and forests. Let this be expected from them as a part of their common school education, and reading, writing, and arithmetic, will be set about in good earnest, and soon mastered by the dullest of the school. Then will there be some object for them to study—some practical utility in their acquiring these fundamental branches.

The idea that these studies should be taught only in High Schools and Academies, is nothing but old fogyism—perfect nonsense. But mark, I would have these branches taught, only so far as they are practically useful, in the district school. Then our academics would be filled with better teachers, and the people would get better teachers, too, as necessity would require it. Lsay the thing is practicable, and should be done as fast as the increasing interest in education can do it. All these sciences, if properly presented, have attractions enough for themselves, and if their efforts be well directed, cannot fail to interest them. When parents become thus interested in the education of their children, then surely they will see them rise up "to call them blessed," for little family broils they will have social intellectual treat—for the petty neighborhood strifes and contentions, kind interchanges of thoughts on the most pleasant and useful subjects. Instead of spending so much time to no purpose, let us set about learning to think rightly for ourselves. That is what we want—wake up the thoughts, and then the acts will follow.

I intend to write you about tilling the soil, &c., in this country, if you wish to hear. I will deal with facts hereafter, unless you laugh too much at my project—and then I will urge it. But they don't till the soil here, they only grow cotton.

Yours truly, &c.,

Le Fayette, Chambers Co., Alabama.

## LOCATION OF ROADS.

A recent number of the Maine Farmer, contained an excellent article upon the subject of road making, which if properly regarded, would contribute much to the improvement of many of our roads, which in various respects are not what they should be.

Location of roads is so intimately connected with good roads, that more care on this subject may be the production of much public good. It has been a pretty general practice in laying out roads, to aim at getting them as nearly straight as may well be, regardless of hills or valleys, and it not unfrequently happens that a hard hill has to be passed over, when the distance would be no more in circling round it, making comparatively a level road, that could be travelled much quicker than by climbing a hard hill, and with far more ease to the traveller and his beast. There are many roads in New England, that would admit of such improvement in this way, as would almost astonish one who had not carefully viewed the location. Let a person measure the distance over a hill, and then apply the same in circling round it, and he would often be surprised that a hill of such height, had been climbed over so long, and without the least reason for it. If there be no other motive for improvements, than the ease and comfort of the poor creatures who have to toil so hard for their owners, every merciful man should strive to "undo all the heavy burdens he can, and help the oppressed to go free."

Sept. 25, 1853.

**INTERESTING EXHIBITION.** Mr. Lamb is now (Tuesday and Wednesday evenings,) giving an admirable exhibition of dissolving views: consisting of a great number of astronomical illustrations, as well as landscapes—portraits of persons of historical celebrity. These are not only interesting and amusing, but instructive, and an hour spent in viewing them is well spent.

## FATAL ACCIDENT.

As two young men, the one named Charles Winslow, formerly of Waldoboro, the other named Oliver, son of Allen Gay at the marsh, were at work, in blasting rock at the Marine Railway on Ingraham's Point on Monday last, a charge of powder unexpectedly exploded, which has since resulted in the death of Winslow. We learned that after the charge had been prepared and the fuse lighted and they had remained at a distance a sufficient time, as they supposed for the explosion, inferring that the fuse had gone out they approached the place, when at that moment the explosion occurred. The fragments badly mutilated the face and completely broke asunder the skull of Winslow, so that he died on Tuesday about noon.

We believe he was insensible from the time of the accident till his death. He was about 19 years old, and is spoken of by all who knew him as a very upright and industrious young man, in the face and eyes, but it is presumed will recover.

(Rockland Gazette.)

**A SINGULAR CASE.** The Kennebec Journal reports the following case in the Supreme Court of this country.

A somewhat singular case came to trial this week. Mr. James A. Clay and Miss Maria Cole, of Gardiner, it seems belong to a set of come-outers, socialists and vegetarians, and one article of their creed teaches that by abstention from all stimulating food and drink, (as they say nature intended,) men and women may mingle together with perfect freedom without any animal desires, and that when two persons feel a spiritual attraction for each other, they should live. The parties above named have rejected their doctrine to practice of late; but some of the people of Gardiner objecting to so broad a departure from common usage, procured their indictment, first for adultery, and second for lewd and lascivious cohabitation. On trial of the first case, it was proved they were in the habit of lodging together—but the defence, on the other hand, proved by certain physicians that Miss Cole was still a chaste woman—whereupon an acquittal was rendered. On the second indictment, however, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty. The penalty is fine or imprisonment, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding \$300 and five years.

**TERIBLE MORTALITY ON BOARD UNITED STATES STEAMER VIXEN.** Capt. SWARTWOUT, of U. S. Steamer Vixen, writes under date of Pensacola, Sept. 11, that his vessel had been afflicted in an unprecedented manner by yellow fever. Out of ten officers four are dead and five are sick at the Hospital, leaving only one officer besides himself on duty. Out of forty-nine men, the original crew of the Vixen, twelve are dead and twenty-six are at the Hospital sick, so that at present there are but eleven effective men. Capt. Swartwout and crew who are well, are expected to leave in a few days in a brig bound to New York.

## LEGISLATIVE COMPEND.

## EXTRA SESSION.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20.

**SENATE.** Mr. Clark of Lincoln was charged with a message to the Governor and Council, and also to the House, to inform them that the Senate is now in session, and ready to receive any communication, and having attended to that duty reported that the Governor was pleased to say that he had already caused to be laid on the desks of Senators a brief document, and that with such other information, as he might hereafter transmit, would be all he would have to communicate. On motion of Mr. Cary, this document was referred to the Committee on State Lands and Pensions.

Several bills and resolutions were received, and laid on the table.

The message of the Governor in relation to public lands, came back from the House non-committal, and referred to a Joint Special Committee, consisting of 25 on the part of the House, and 7 on the part of the Senate. On motion of Mr. Cary the Senate resolved and adjourned.

**HOUSE.** The Speaker called the House to order at ten o'clock. The Secretary then came in and laid on the table a printed message from the Governor; accompanied by the documents relating to the purchase of Massachusetts lands.

An order was received from the Senate referring the message of the Governor respecting the purchase of Massachusetts lands, to the committee on State Lands. Mr. Foster moved to non-concur and refer the same to a joint select committee, consisting of seven on the part of the Senate and twenty three on the part of the House.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21.

**SENATE.** Bill granting further time to organize the Sandy River Bank was passed to be engrossed.

Several Bills were laid on the table. Bill to charter Rockland and Machias Steam Navigation Company passed to be engrossed.

**HOUSE.** Several bills were presented and laid on the table.

The Committee on the part of the House, to consider the subject of purchasing the Massachusetts lands, was announced.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 22.

**SENATE.** A bill additional to incorporate the Augusta Water Power Company, which was introduced by Mr. Stark, and was read twice, and then it was passed to be engrossed.

**Passed to be engrossed.**—Bill for the conversion of shares in the Atlantic & St. Lawrence Railroad Co., into sterling currency; to change the time of holding criminal court in Lincoln county; to authorize the city of Bangor to collect taxes assessed in 1853; to extend the time for the Great Falls and South Branch Railroad to file their location.

**HOUSE.** Mr. North of Augusta, laid on the table a bill additional to an act to incorporate the Augusta Water Power Company, and petition from the corporation for the passage of the same. The bill was read twice.

Mr. North then moved to suspend the rules so as to give the bill a third reading at the present time, and explained the necessities of the corporation.

After some debate the bill was passed to be engrossed.

**Passed to be enacted.**—Bill granting further time for the organization of the Sandy River Bank was passed to be enacted.

**Passed to be engrossed.**—Bills, granting further time for the organization of Sandy River Bank to incorporate the Rockland and Machias Steam Navigation Co.; to incorporate the Charles Town Steam Mill Company; in amendment of an act extending the time for filing the location for the time for completing the railroad of the Great Falls and South Branch Railroad Company;



